

---

---

# Table of Contents

---

---

<b>About Your New BC 120XLT</b> .....	2
What is Scanning? .....	2
What is Searching? .....	2
Types of Communication .....	3
Where to Obtain More Information .....	4
Unpacking .....	4
<b>Feature Highlights</b> .....	5
<b>Controls and Indicators</b> .....	6
<b>Setup</b> .....	10
Charging the Battery Pack .....	10
Mounting the Flexible Antenna .....	10
Installing the Belt Clip .....	11
Using the Earphone .....	11
<b>Operation Overview</b> .....	12
<b>Programming Channels</b> .....	14
Programming By Manual Entry .....	14
Deleting a Stored Frequency .....	15
<b>Scanning</b> .....	16
Priority Scan .....	17
Delay .....	17
Locking Out Channels .....	18
Looking for "Locked Out" Channels .....	18
Weather Channel Scanning .....	19
Preprogrammed Service (SVC) Scanning .....	19
Programming with Service (SVC) Scan .....	20
<b>Searching</b> .....	21
Using DATA Skip .....	21
Search Frequency Skip .....	22
Programming With SEARCH .....	22
<b>Care and Maintenance</b> .....	23
Replacing the Battery Pack .....	23
Location .....	24
Cleaning .....	24
Repairs .....	24
Birdies .....	25
Proper Care of Your Scanner .....	25
<b>Troubleshooting</b> .....	26
<b>Optional Accessories and Replacement Parts</b> .....	27
<b>Technical Specifications</b> .....	28

---

## About Your New BC 120XLT

---

The **BC 120XLT** is a brand new state-of-the-art information radio with automatic scanning capabilities. It can store frequencies such as police, fire/emergency, marine, air, amateur, and other communications into 10 banks of 10 channels each. And you can scan all 100 channels at super fast Turbo Scan speed.

With the **BC 120XLT**, you can search for frequencies at fast speed. You can also search v.h.f. frequencies at super fast Turbo speed.

### What is Scanning?

Unlike standard AM or FM radio stations, most two-way communications (listed below) do not transmit continuously. The **BC 120XLT** scans programmed channels at the rate of nearly 100 channels per second until it finds an active frequency.

Scanning stops on an active frequency, and remains on that channel as long as the transmission continues. When the transmission ends, the scanning cycle resumes until another transmission is received. Or, you can select an optional Delay so the scanner stays on the channel for 2 more seconds after the transmission stops, waiting for another transmission, before resuming scanning.

While the **BC 120XLT** is scanning channels, it is in "SCAN Mode". When you stop the scanning with **(MAN)**, it is in "SCAN HOLD Mode".

### What is Searching?

The **BC 120XLT** can search each of 11 bands to find active frequencies. This is different from scanning, because you can search for frequencies that have not been programmed into your **BC 120XLT**. You can choose between two speeds for the search feature. With Turbo Search, a new feature for Uniden scanners, you can search the v.h.f. FM bands at up to 3 times the normal speed.

When the **BC 120XLT** is searching for active frequencies, it is in "SEARCH Mode" or "TURBO SEARCH Mode." When you stop the search with **(HOLD)**, it is in "SEARCH HOLD Mode".

With both Turbo Scan and Turbo Search, your **BC 120XLT** is truly a Twin Turbo Scanner.

## Types of Communication

You will be able to monitor communication such as:

- » Police and fire department (including rescue and paramedics)
- » NOAA weather broadcasts (7 preprogrammed channels)
- » Business/industrial radio
- » Motion picture and press relay
- » Utility
- » Land transportation frequencies, such as trucking firms, buses, taxis, tow trucks, and railroads
- » Marine and amateur (ham radio) bands
- » Air band

And many more in the following 11 Bands:

Frequency Range	Steps	Mode	Transmission
29.0-29.7 MHz	5 kHz	NFM	10 Meter Amateur Band
29.7-50.0 MHz	5 kHz	NFM	VHF Low band
50.0-54.0 MHz	5 kHz	NFM	6 Meter Amateur Band
108-136.9875 MHz	12.5 kHz	AM	Aircraft Band
137-144 MHz	5 kHz	NFM	Military Land mobile
144-148 MHz	5 kHz	NFM	2 Meter Amateur Band
148-174 MHz	5 kHz	NFM	VHF High Band
406-420 MHz	12.5 kHz	NFM	Federal Govt. Land Mobile
420-450 MHz	12.5 kHz	NFM	70 cm Amateur Band
450-470 MHz	12.5 kHz	NFM	UHF Standard Band
470-512 MHz	12.5 kHz	NFM	UHF "T" Band

### NOTE:

**The installation, possession, or use of this scanning radio in a motor vehicle may be prohibited, regulated, or require a permit in certain states, cities, and/or local jurisdiction. Your local law enforcement officials should be able to provide you with information regarding the laws in your community.**

## Where to Obtain More Information

The Bearcat Radio Club and other similar hobby clubs have publications, information on computer bulletin boards, and even contests for the radio enthusiast. See the enclosed pamphlets for more information. Additional information is also available through your local library.

## Unpacking

Carefully check the contents against this list:

- **BC 120XLT** Twin Turbo Scanner
- Rubber Antenna
- AC Adapter/Charger (AD-70U)
- Earphone
- Belt Clip
- Battery (BP-120)
- This Operating Guide
- Registration Form
- Frequency Directories Order Form and other forms
- Nickel-Cadmium Disposal Notice
- Uniden 800 Help Line Notice

If any items are missing or damaged, contact your place of purchase immediately.

Complete and mail your Registration Form immediately.

Please read this Operating Guide thoroughly before operating the scanner.

---

## Feature Highlights

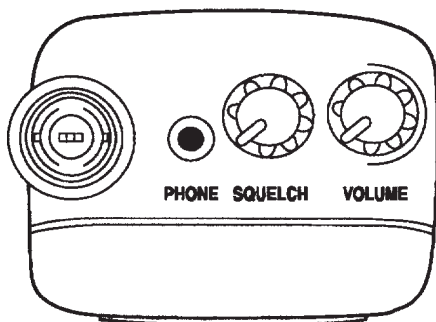
---

- ◆ **Twin Turbo Scan & Search** —This lightning-fast technology enables the **BC 120XLT** to scan nearly 100 channels per second. Search speed is selectable between 100 and 300 steps per second. (300 steps per second only in bands with 5 KHz steps.) Because the frequency coverage is so large (see previous section for band listing), very fast scanning and searching are essential. That is why we combined our latest technology — Twin Turbo — into the **BC 120XLT**.
- ◆ **100 Channels** You can program each of these memory channels to store one frequency.
- ◆ **11 Bands, 10 Banks** Includes 11 Bands, including Aircraft. 10 Banks of 10 channels each are useful for storing similar frequencies in order to maintain faster scanning cycles.
- ◆ **29 MHz - 512 MHz** Indicates the range of frequencies that can be searched within the bands of your scanner. (**Note:** The frequency coverage is not totally continuous from 29.0 MHz to 512 MHz.)
- ◆ **10 Priority Channels** You can assign *one* Priority Channel in each Bank. Assigning priority channels allows you to keep track of activity on your most important channel(s) while monitoring other channels for transmissions. (Priority Channels are initially set in the first channel in each Bank.)
- ◆ **Preprogrammed Service (SVC) Search** Allows you to toggle through preprogrammed police, fire/emergency, aircraft and marine frequencies.
- ◆ **Weather Channels** Lets your scanner function as a weather information radio.
- ◆ **Unique Data Skip** Allows the scanner to skip over unwanted data transmissions and reduces birdies.
- ◆ **Memory Backup** The stored channels are retained in memory for at least 3 days, and typically 14 days, when the Battery Pack is removed from the scanner.

---

## Controls and Indicators

---



### Top View

#### Antenna Connector

Connect the rubber antenna to this BNC connector and turn clockwise until it locks.

#### Earphone Jack

Plug the supplied earphone into this jack for private listening. When the earphone is connected, the internal speaker is disconnected.

Note the warning on the Inside Front Cover and on page 11.

#### SQUELCH Control

Adjust this control to set the scan threshold and to eliminate the background rushing noise heard in the absence of an incoming signal. See the Operation Section for adjustment procedure.

#### ON-OFF/ VOLUME Control

Use this control to turn the scanner on or off, and to adjust the volume.


### Front View

(Refer to the foldout illustration inside the Back Cover)

Complete explanations of the use of these keys are in the Scanning section, page 16, and Searching section, page 21.

1. **LCD DISPLAY** — The liquid crystal display (LCD) shows the current channel and frequency. It also displays the mode, status, and bank indicators.

- A. **Scan Type Indicator** — Indicates **BANK** Scan operation.

- C. Memory Bank Numbers** — Each Memory Bank consists of 10 channels that you can select or deselect during scanning operation, using the numeric keypad. When you select a Bank, its number appears on the display. When you deselect a Bank, its number disappears from the display. When you press **(MAN)** to stop scanning, only the Bank of the current channel appears.
- D. Low Battery Indicator** — Appears on the display when the Battery Pack is low and needs recharging.
- E. Frequency Indicator** — 7-digits plus decimal indicate the frequency being received by the scanner.
- F. Mode Indicators** — *(Only the active mode(s) are displayed during operation.)*
- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| <b>DATA</b> | Indicates DATA SKIP activated during SEARCH.  |
| <b>SCN</b>  | Indicates SCAN Mode.  |
| <b>SRCH</b> | Indicates SEARCH Mode. Flashes when in TURBO SEARCH Mode.   |
| <b>PRI</b>  | Indicates PRIORITY SCAN Mode.   |
| <b>HOLD</b> | Indicates SCAN HOLD, SEARCH HOLD, or SVC Scan HOLD Mode.  |
| <b>DLY</b>  | Indicates DELAY is activated.   |
| <b>L/O</b>  | In SCAN Mode indicates the channel shown is "Locked Out".<br>In SEARCH Mode and SVC Scan Mode, indicates the frequency shown is "Locked Out". |
| <b>WX</b>   | Indicates WEATHER SCAN Mode.  |
- G. ** Indicates the keypad is locked.
- H. Priority Channel Indicator** — **P** appears when the scanner stops on a Priority Channel.
- Press **(SCAN)** to start scanning all programmed channels that are not locked out. (**SCAN** moves across the display during scanning.)
  - In SCAN Mode, press **(MAN)** to stop scanning. (**HOLD** appears on the display.) After you stop the scanner, press **(SCAN)** again to resume scanning.
  - Press **(SVC)** to toggle between preprogrammed police, fire/emergency, air, and marine frequencies.

5. Use **[.]** to enter the decimal point when programming a frequency into a channel. If you make an entry error, press **[.]** before the **[E]** key to erase the entry, and start over.
6. There are 7 Preprogrammed NOAA weather channels. Press **[WX]** to find the active NOAA weather channel in your area. **WX** appears on the display in Weather Mode.
7. Use **[LIMIT]** to set the limits of a range of frequencies for Search Mode. When Search is stopped, or, in SCAN HOLD Mode or Service (SVC) Scan Mode, use **[▼]** to go down in frequency.
8. While Scanning, press **[PRI]** to enter the PRIORITY SCAN Mode. (**PRI** appears on the display.) While Searching, press **[PRI]** (**TURBO**) to toggle between 100 steps and 300 steps per second. (When in TURBO SEARCH Mode, **SRCH** flashes on the display.)
9. Press **[DELAY]** to turn ON or OFF the automatic 2-second delay during scanning or searching for active frequencies. (In Delay Mode, **DLY** appears on the display.) In this mode, when the scanner monitors an active frequency, searching or scanning will not resume until transmission stops for 2 seconds.
10. Press **[LIGHT]** to turn the display backlight ON for 15 seconds. Press **[LIGHT]** again to manually turn the light OFF.  
Press and *hold* **[LOCK]**. **🔒** appears on the display and you hear two beeps. This disables the keypad and prevents any accidental key entries. To enable the keypad, press and *hold* **[LOCK]**. **🔒** disappears from the display and you hear two beeps.
11. **NUMERIC KEYPAD** — Use these keys to program a channel for scanning. Also use to access a channel directly with **[MAN]**. During SCAN Mode, use these keys to select or deselect any of the 10 memory banks. (Only the selected bank indicator(s) appear on the display.)  
**Note:** *You cannot deactivate all 10 banks at the same time.*



Key	Bank	Channel
①	1	1 - 10
②	2	11 - 20
③	3	21 - 30
④	4	31 - 40
⑤	5	41 - 50
⑥	6	51 - 60
⑦	7	61 - 70
⑧	8	71 - 80
⑨	9	81 - 90
⑩	10	91 - 100

12. Press **(E)** to store a displayed frequency into any displayed channel.
13. Press **[SRCH]** to start a search within frequency limits specified by you.
14. In SEARCH Mode, press **(HOLD)** to stop searching. In Service (SVC) Scan Mode, press **(HOLD)** to stop scanning. When Search is stopped, use **▲** to go up in frequency. In SCAN HOLD Mode, use this key to go up to the next channel. In Service (SVC) Scan HOLD Mode, use this key to go up to the next preprogrammed frequency.
15. Press **(L/O)** to "Lock Out" or prevent scanning of the displayed channel, including Priority Channels. (L/O appears on the display.) To unlock a channel, press **(L/O)** again. **(L/O)** can be used in Scan or SEARCH Modes.
16. Use **(DATA)** to skip data signals and unmodulated carriers when in SEARCH Mode. This feature is not active in the Air Band.

---

## Setup

---

The **BC 120XLT** comes with a rechargeable Nickel-Cadmium Battery Pack. When fully charged, this Battery Pack will supply up to 12 hours of dependable use. (With the Squelch control in "closed" position.)

Before using the **BC 120XLT** for the first time, or whenever the **LOW BATTERY** Indicator appears on the LCD display, you should fully charge the Battery Pack.

**Note:** *When the Battery Pack is low, the Low Battery Indicator will start to blink. After about 10 minutes, the scanner will shut itself off to prevent the battery from becoming completely discharged.*

Before charging, you must first install the Battery Pack according to the steps below.

### Charging the Battery Pack

1. Plug the AC Adapter/Charger (AD-70U) into the Charging Jack located on the Left side of the **BC 120XLT**. You can use the scanner while it is charging.)

---

**WARNING!** *Use only an AD-70U AC Adapter/Charger, (or one of the optional Cigarette Lighter Power Cords listed on page 27). Any other AC adapter or external cord or power plug having over-voltage or reversed polarity can cause overheating or damage to the circuitry.*

---

2. Plug the AC Adapter/Charger into a standard AC outlet.

To fully charge the battery, leave the Adapter/Charger connected for 14 to 16 hours.

3. When charging is complete, disconnect the Adapter/Charger from the AC outlet and from the Battery Pack.

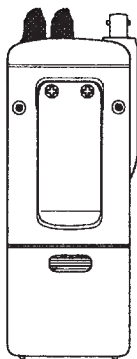
**Note:** *Disconnect the AC Adapter/Charger from the unit during a power failure.*

### Mounting the Flexible Antenna

Place the end of the antenna onto the BNC connector on top of the scanner and turn clockwise until tight.

## Installing the Belt Clip

1. Place the Belt Clip on the mounting area on the back of the scanner, making sure the holes in the clip line up with the threads in the back of the scanner.



2. Insert the 2 screws into the corresponding holes and tighten.

**CAUTION:** Do not tighten the screws too tight. You could damage the case or clip.

## Using the Earphone

The PHONE jack at the top of the **BC 120XLT** is a standard 3.5mm stereo phone jack. You can use either the supplied earphone, or a stereo headset. The output of this jack is monaural audio, but you will hear it in both headphones of a stereo headset.

### IMPORTANT!

Be sure to use only the supplied earphone, or stereo headset of the proper impedance (32 $\Omega$ .) Use of an incorrect earphone or stereo headset may be potentially dangerous to your hearing.

---

**WARNING:** Do not plug in the earphone or headphones before setting the Volume Control. You might experience some hearing damage if the Volume suddenly becomes too loud because of the volume Control or Squelch Control setting. This is particularly true of the type of earphone that is placed in the ear canal.

---

## Operation Overview

---

**Note:** Before operating the **BC 120XLT** for the first time, make sure you have fully charged the Battery Pack.

1. Before turning on the scanner, rotate the Squelch Control fully clockwise.
2. Turn the scanner on by rotating the On-Off/Volume Control clockwise until you hear a click. Turn the Volume Control a small amount clockwise to a low listening level.
3. You should hear either a "rushing" noise or some communications. If you are monitoring a transmission, wait until it stops before adjusting the Squelch Control.
4. Readjust the volume to a comfortable listening level.
5. Turn the Squelch Control counterclockwise *just* until the rushing noise disappears. At the squelch threshold, any incoming signal just slightly stronger than the noise will open the squelch. Any communication that is received will open the Squelch, and stop scanning or Searching.

**Note:** If squelch is set too tight, that is, too far **counterclockwise** from the threshold point, a much stronger signal is required to open the squelch. If squelch is set on a point **clockwise** from the threshold, you will hear a constant sound (noise, if no signal is present.) The scanner will not scan.

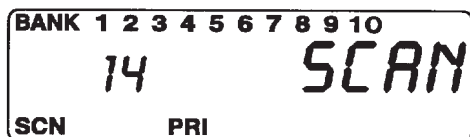
The **BC 120XLT** has 100 memory channels, each of which can be programmed to store one frequency. The channels are divided into ten 10-channel banks, useful for storing similar frequencies in order to maintain faster scanning cycles.

You can monitor communication in one of three ways:

- **SCAN** If you have programmed channels, you can scan all programmed channels in the selected bank(s), except locked out channels. When scanning stops on an active frequency, it remains on that channel as long as the transmission continues. When the transmission stops, the **BC 120XLT** resumes scanning. If the Delay Mode is on, the scanner remains on the same channel for 2 more seconds, waiting for a responding transmission. If there is no responding transmission within 2 seconds, the scanning cycle resumes.

Any channels that are not programmed (000.0000) are skipped during scan.

When the **BC 120XLT** is in SCAN Mode, the display will look something like this:



- **SEARCH** The Search function is *different* from Scan. When you select a frequency band to search, the scanner searches for any active frequency within the lower and upper limits you specify. When an active frequency is found, the scanner stops on that frequency as long as the transmission lasts. If the Delay Mode is on, the scanner remains on the same channel for 2 more seconds, waiting for a responding transmission. If there is no responding transmission within 2 seconds, the search cycle resumes.

When the **BC 120XLT** is in SEARCH Mode, the display will look something like this:






- **PREPROGRAMMED SERVICE SCAN** This feature allows you to toggle through preprogrammed police, fire/emergency, aircraft and marine frequencies. The preprogrammed frequencies are those most commonly used around the U.S.

---

## Programming Channels

---

Before you can scan, you must program the channels within a bank. You can store one frequency per channel, up to 100 channels.

**Note:** If  appears on the display (keypad Locked), unlock the keypad by pressing and *holding*  until  disappears and you hear two beeps.






There are three ways to program a channel:

- Manually select a channel and frequency, using the numeric keypad.
- Scan a Preprogrammed Service (SVC) Bank for an active frequency, and then directly store it into a selected channel. (See the Service Scan section, page 19.)
- Search a band to find an active frequency, and then directly store it into a selected channel. (See the Search section, page 22.)

### Programming By Manual Entry


1. Select a frequency from the appropriate Frequency Directory, such as the Betty Bearcat (or similar) Frequency Book (optional).

**Example:** Program 125.2500 MHz into Channel 18.

2. Make sure the scanner is in the SCAN Mode. If it is in the SRCH Mode, press .
3. Press  to stop scanning.
4. Press    to go to Channel 18.
5. Enter the frequency number using the numeric keypad. (Be sure to include the decimal point.) As soon as you enter the first digit of the frequency, the channel number begins to blink.

     .



If you make a mistake and want to clear the entry, press  twice and re-enter the frequency.

6. Press **(E)** to store the entry. The channel number on the display stops blinking.



7. If that frequency is already stored in another channel, you will hear a “beep”, and the duplicate channel number will appear on the display.

If you want to store the frequency in the selected channel (18) as well, press **(E)** again. Or, press **(●)** and enter another frequency for the currently selected channel. The channel number on the display stops blinking.

**Note:** Any frequency already stored in any channel will automatically be replaced by the new one.

8. If you try to enter a frequency that is outside one of the 11 Bands, you will hear a “beep”, and the word “Error” appears on the display.



Press **(●)** and re-enter the correct frequency.

9. To program another channel, repeat the above procedures.

## Deleting a Stored Frequency

To delete a frequency from a channel:

1. Display the channel and frequency to be deleted.
2. Press **(0)** on the numeric keypad.
3. Press **(E)**. The current channel is erased, and the display shows **000.000**.

**Note:** That channel will be skipped during scanning.

---

## Scanning

---

**Note:** When you turn the scanner on it will always be in **SCAN** Mode.

1. Look at the lower left corner of the display. If **SCN** is not displayed, press **(SCAN)**. The **BC 120XLT** should begin scanning.
2. If **HOLD** appears at the bottom of the display, press **(SCAN)** to begin scanning.

The indicators for the selected Banks (1 through 10) appear on the display. The indicator of the Bank currently being monitored flashes. While the **BC 120XLT** is scanning, the word **SCAN** moves across the display.

Scanning stops on any active channel that is not "Locked Out", and displays the Channel Number and frequency. Scanning resumes automatically after the transmission stops.

3. You can deselect any bank(s) from being scanned by entering the number of the bank. The deselected bank indicator(s) disappear from the display, and those channels will not be scanned. This procedure helps to speed up the scanning cycle.

**Note:** One Bank must always be active. You cannot deactivate all 10 banks at the same time. If you try to deactivate all 10 Banks, Bank 1 will automatically be active.

4. To restore any bank for scanning, just enter its number again. The bank indicator will reappear on the display.
5. To stop scanning any time, press **(MAN)**. (**HOLD** appears on the display.) The scanner remains on the displayed channel, and only the bank indicator for that channel appears. Press **(SCAN)**, to resume scanning.
6. When you are stopped at a channel, you can press **▼** to step down a channel, or **▲** to step up a channel. Press and *hold* either key to rapidly step through the channels.

**Note:** You do not skip a locked out ("LO") channel when you use **▼** or **▲**.



## To access a specific channel:

1. Press **MAN**.
2. Enter the channel number using the numeric keys.
3. Press **MAN** again.

## Priority Scan

The **BC 120XLT** has 10 Priority Channels, 1 per Bank. Initially, these are the first channel in each Bank. (e.g. Channel 1, Channel 11, Channel 21, and so on.) The scanner checks the Priority Channel(s) every 2 seconds during the Scan cycle. If a transmission is received, the scanner will stop at that channel. If the Priority Channel in any Bank is "Locked Out", it will be skipped during scanning.

You can move the Priority to any other channel in a Bank as follows:

1. Go directly to that channel using any of the methods described above.
2. Press and hold **PRI** for at least 2 seconds. You will hear a "beep", and **P** will appear on the display to the left of the new channel number. That channel will now be the Priority Channel for that Bank. (The **P** will no longer for the previous Priority Channel.)

To activate Priority Scan, press **PRI**. The **PRI** indicator will appear at the bottom of the display. To deactivate Priority Scan, press **PRI** again. The **PRI** indicator will disappear from the bottom of the display.

## Delay

Normally the scanner will resume scanning when a transmission stops. If you want to remain on a channel until a responding transmission is received, activate the **DELAY** feature. This feature can be active in **SCAN**, **SVC Scan**, **SEARCH**, and **WEATHER** Modes.

1. Press **DELAY**. The **DLY** indicator appears at the bottom of the display. The scanner will now pause 2 seconds after transmission stops before resuming scanning.
2. Press **DELAY** again to deactivate Delay. The **DLY** indicator disappears from the bottom of the display.

## Locking Out Channels

You may have programmed certain channels that you do not want to hear every time you scan. These are channels that are busy a major portion of the time, and the scanner stops at the channel(s) often enough to interrupt the scan cycle. You can Lock Out those channels so they are not scanned.

1. Go directly to that channel using any of the methods described above.
2. Press **(L/O)**. **L/O** appears at the lower right of the display.

That channel is now “Locked Out” of the scanning cycle. However, you can access that channel at any time using one of the Direct Channel Access methods.

To put the channel back in the scanning cycle:

1. Go directly to the desired channel.
2. Press **(L/O)**. The **L/O** indicator now disappears from the display, and the channel is no longer “Locked Out”.

You can lock out any or all of the Priority Channels the same way as other channels. If you lock out all Priority Channels you will see this message:



You can also remove **L/O** from all “Locked Out” channels in the selected Scan Banks (those appearing at the top of the display.) Press and hold **(L/O)** for at least 2 seconds. You will hear two beeps and all channels, except empty channels (000.0000)MHz, are returned to the scanning cycle in the selected Scan Banks.

**Note:** Any “Locked Out” channels in Banks that are *deselected* are still “Locked Out”.

## Looking for “Locked Out” Channels

During scanning, you will not see “Locked Out” channels. To look for “Locked Out” channels, first press **(MAN)** to stop scanning. Then use **▲** or **▼** to step through the Bank. You will see **L/O** on the display to indicate a “Locked Out” channel.

## Weather Channel Scanning

The **BC 120XLT** is designed to search for your local NOAA weather channel(s) from 7 preprogrammed NOAA channels.

1. Press **(WX)** to begin Weather Search. **WX** appears at the right side of the display and the word **SCAN** moves across the display.
2. When the Weather Search finds an active channel in your area, the scanner stops at that frequency.
3. To stay at that frequency, press **(HOLD)**. To resume Weather Search, press **(WX)** again.

It is possible that you may be able to hear more than one Weather broadcast in your area. If the broadcast sounds weak and distant, press **(WX)** again to look for a closer station. Or, press **▲** or **▼** to move to another station.

4. To exit Weather Mode, press **(SCAN)**.

**Note:** All weather channels transmit continuous broadcasts. Once the Weather scan stops on a transmission, it will remain on that channel. Weather scan will not resume automatically. You must press **(WX)** again to reactivate scanning.

*In some parts of the country, you may not be able to monitor weather broadcasts, such as in low-lying areas. Normally a higher location will improve the reception.*

## Preprogrammed Service (SVC) Scanning

The SVC Scan feature allows you to toggle through four banks of frequencies preprogrammed for police, fire/emergency, aircraft, and marine. The frequencies selected for these banks are those most commonly used around the U.S.

1. Press **(SVC)**. **POLICE** appears beneath the blinking channel number and a frequency number also appears next to the channel number.
2. Press **(SVC)** repeatedly to cycle to the band you want to listen to (**POLICE, FIRE/EMG, AIR, MRN**). The **BC 120XLT** waits for two seconds, then begins scanning that band. Or, press **(SCAN)** to begin scanning the selected band immediately. **SCAN** moves across the display.
3. Press **(HOLD)** at any time to stop the scan on a frequency. **HOLD** appears on the display. Press **(SCAN)** to resume scanning.

When SVC Scan is stopped, press **▲** or **▼** to move up or down one frequency step. Press and hold **▲** or **▼** to rapidly move up or down through the frequencies.

**Note:** *If you want to remain on a channel until a responding transmission is received, press **DELAY** to activate the two second delay feature.*

4. To exit SVC Scan Mode, press **MAN**.

To use the Lockout feature during SVC Scan:

1. Press **HOLD** to stop the scanning cycle.
2. Press **L/O**.
3. Press **SCAN**.

You can lock out a total of 20 frequencies in SVC Scan Mode.

**Caution:** If you attempt to lock out more than 20 frequencies, you will overwrite those frequencies already stored in the SVC Scan Lock Out Memory.

**Note:** *The **DATA** and **TURBO** functions are inoperative during SVC Scan.*

## Programming with Service (SVC) Scan

1. Manually select a channel as described in "Programming Channels," page 14.
2. Press **SVC** to enter the SVC Scan Mode. Press **SVC** repeatedly until you reach the bank you want (POLICE, FIRE/EMG, AIR, MRN).
3. Wait two seconds for scanning to begin, or press **SCAN** to start scanning immediately. **SCAN** moves across the display.
4. When SVC Scan stops on a desired frequency, press **HOLD** to stay on that frequency. **HOLD** appears on the display.

The channel number you selected will be blinking.

5. To store the displayed frequency into that channel, press **E**. The channel number stops blinking.

---

## Searching

---

The **BC 120XLT** can search bands you specify to find desired frequencies if you do not have a Frequency Directory handy, or if new stations have been added since the Directory was published.

1. Press **(MAN)** to stop scanning.
2. Use the numeric keypad to enter the *lowest* frequency of the range you want to search.
3. Press **(LIMIT)**.
4. Enter the *highest* frequency of the range you want to search.
5. Press **(LIMIT)**.
6. Press **[SRCH]**.

During a Search, press **(PRI)** to activate **TURBO SEARCH**. This increases the Search Speed to 300 steps per second in those bands that have 5 KHz steps. (See the table on page 3 for the Band Chart.) When you activate **TURBO SEARCH**, the **SRCH** indicator flashes. Press **(PRI)** again to deactivate **TURBO SEARCH**.

7. Press **(HOLD)** at any time to stop the search on a frequency. Press **[SRCH]** again to resume searching.
8. When Search is stopped, you can press **▲** or **▼** to move up or down 1 frequency step. (See the table on page 3 for the step size for each Band.)

### Using DATA Skip.

A scanner will normally stop on any transmission it receives. This means the **BC 120XLT** will stop on Data signals and unmodulated transmissions. You can skip these frequencies during Search.

Press **(DATA)** to activate the DATA Skip feature. The **DATA** indicator appears on the display. The scanner may pause momentarily at an unwanted signal, but will resume searching in 2 or 3 seconds. To deactivate DATA Skip, press **(DATA)** again. The **DATA** indicator disappears from the display.

**Note:** *DATA Skip does not function on the AIR Band. The **DATA** indicator will not appear on the display even if this feature is activated.*

## Search Frequency Skip.

The scanner may stop at certain frequencies during Search that you do not want to hear. You can program up to **10** Skip Frequencies into the **BC 120XLT**. When the scanner stops at one of these frequencies during Search, press **(L0)**. That frequency is now “memorized” and will be skipped during any Search. The scanner will then search to find other active frequencies.

**Caution:** If you attempt to lock out more than 10 frequencies, you will overwrite those frequencies already stored in the Search Skip Memory.

## Programming With SEARCH

The Search feature enables you to rapidly search for active frequencies within band limits you specify. When an interesting frequency is found, you can store it in a channel using the procedure below.

1. Press **(MAN)**.
2. Use the keypad to select the channel you wish to store a frequency in.
3. Press **(MAN)** to access that channel.
4. Use the keypad to enter the *lowest* frequency of the band you wish to search.
5. Press **(LIMIT)**.
6. Enter the *highest* frequency of the band you wish to search.
7. Press **(LIMIT)**.
8. Press **[SRCH]**.
9. When Search stops on a desired frequency, press **(HOLD)** to stay on that frequency. The channel you chose above will be blinking on the display.



10. To store the displayed frequency in that channel, press **(E)**. The channel number on the display stops blinking.

Repeat this procedure to store other frequencies found in the SEARCH Mode.

---

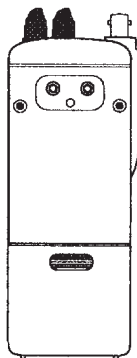
## Care and Maintenance

---

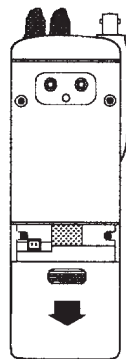
### Replacing the Battery Pack

1. Turn the On-Off/Volume Control OFF.

2. Turn the scanner over so you are looking at the back.



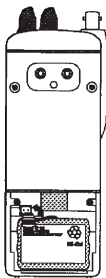
3. Press in on the ribbed area and slide the Battery Cover down and off.



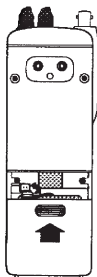
4. Carefully unplug the Battery Back and lift it out of the case.

5. Carefully plug in the new Battery Pack, observing the proper polarity. (The **RED** wire should be on the right as you plug it in.) Although the plug is keyed to reduce the chance of inserting it wrong, make sure the wires are in the correct position before pushing it in all the way. **DO NOT FORCE THE PLUG IN.**

6. Insert the Battery Pack into the scanner so the label side is showing. Make sure it is seated within the case before replacing the Battery Cover.



7. Replace the Battery Cover by putting the two tabs in the corresponding opening and sliding it upward until it locks in place.



## Location

- If strong interference or electrical noise is received, relocate the scanner or its antenna away from the source of the noise. A higher elevation, if possible, may provide better reception.
- **Do not** use the scanner in high-moisture environments such as the kitchen or bathroom.
- Avoid placing the unit in direct sunlight or near heating elements or vents.
- **Do not** plug the scanner into an outlet controlled by a wall switch as prolonged periods without power will cause scanner memory loss.

## Cleaning

- Disconnect the power to the unit before cleaning.
- Clean the outside of the scanner with a mild detergent.
- To prevent scratches, **do not** use abrasive cleaners or solvents. Be careful not to rub the LCD window.
- **Do not** use excessive amounts of water.

## Repairs

**Do not** attempt any repair. The scanner contains no serviceable parts. Contact the Uniden Customer Service Center or take it to a qualified repair technician.



## **Birdies**

All scanners are subject to receiving undesired signals or birdies. If your scanner stops during SEARCH Mode and no sound is heard, it may be receiving a birdie. Birdies are internally generated signals inherent in the electronics of the scanner. Use the Search Skip feature to skip the unwanted frequencies.

## **Proper Care of Your Scanner**

Use only an AD-70U AC Adapter/ Charger, (or one of the optional Cigarette Lighter Power Cords listed on page 27) with your scanner.

Do not leave the AC Adapter/Charger plugged in for long periods.

Avoid placing the scanner in direct sunlight or near heating elements or vents.

Also, do not subject the scanner to continuous sub-zero temperatures. If the scanner is exposed to temperatures below -5°F or above 140°F, the liquid crystal display may temporarily cease to function properly, or can become permanently damaged.

---

---

## Troubleshooting

---

---

If your **BC 120XLT** is not performing properly, try the steps listed below.

PROBLEM	SOLUTION
Scanner won't work.	Check the power connections.  Check the volume and squelch.  Make sure the power switch is turned on.
Improper reception.	Check the antenna connection.  You may be in a fringe area. Reposition the scanner.
Scan won't stop.	Adjust the Squelch Control.  Check the antenna connection.  It is possible that none of the programmed frequencies are active at the time. Try Service Band Search.
Scan won't start.	Make sure there are some programmed channels.  Adjust the Squelch Control.
Search won't start.	Adjust the Squelch Control.
Keypad won't work.	Check the Keypad Lock.

If you still cannot get satisfactory results and want additional information, or to return the unit for service, please call or write the Uniden Parts and Service Division. The address and phone number are listed in the Warranty (at the end of this manual).

---

## Optional Accessories and Replacement Parts

---

The following optional accessories and replacement parts for your **BC120XLT** are available from your local Uniden Dealer or through the Uniden Customer Service Center by calling: (800) 297-1023, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Central, Monday through Friday.

ITEM	PART NO.
Spare Battery Pack	BP-120
Replacement Rubber Antenna	AT-218
Earphone	EP-009
AC Adapter/Charger	AD-70U
Leather Carrying Case	LC-120
*Straight Cigarette Lighter Power Cord (fused)	UA-502
*Coiled Cigarette Lighter Power Cord (fused)	UA-502A
Belt Clip with 2 screws	BCK-150
BC120XLT Operating Guide	OMBC120

\*Use only with a 12-13.8VDC, Negative Ground system.  
Replace fuse only with same type/rating.

---

---

## Technical Specifications

---

---

<b>Channels:</b>	100
<b>Banks:</b>	Total 10 Banks 10 Channels each
<b>WX:</b>	7 Programmed Channels (All NOAA Weather Service)
<b>Service Bands:</b>	4 Preprogrammed Search bands

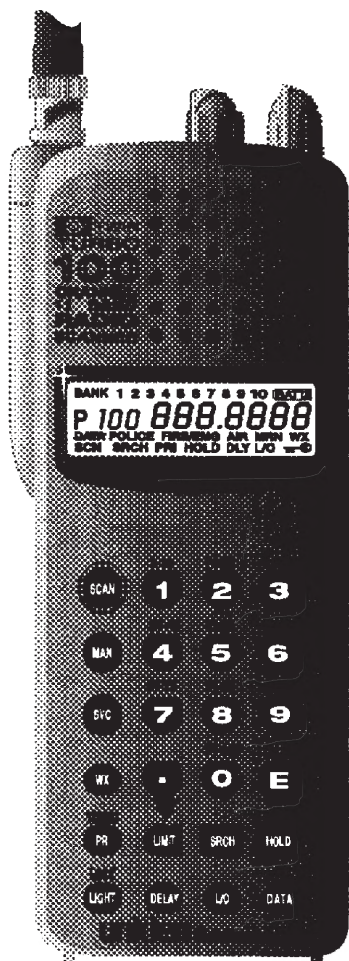
<b>Frequency Coverage</b>	<b>Steps</b>
29.00 to 29.70 MHz (NFM)	5 kHz
29.70 to 50.00 MHz (NFM)	5 kHz
50.00 to 54.00 MHz (NFM)	5 kHz
108.00 to 136.9875 MHz (AM)	12.5 kHz
137.00 to 144.00 MHz (NFM)	5 kHz
144.00 to 148.00 MHz (NFM)	5 kHz
148.00 to 174.00 MHz (NFM)	5 kHz
406.00 to 420.00 MHz (NFM)	12.5 kHz
420.00 to 450.00 MHz (NFM)	12.5 kHz
450.00 to 470.00 MHz (NFM)	12.5 kHz
470.00 to 512.00 MHz (NFM)	12.5 kHz

<b>Scan Rate:</b>	100 channels per sec. Max.
<b>Search Rate:</b>	100 steps per sec. (Normal SEARCH Mode) 300 steps per sec. (TURBO SEARCH Mode)
<b>Scan Delay:</b>	2 seconds
<b>Audio Output:</b>	180 mW nominal into 8 $\Omega$ internal speaker 30 mW nominal into 32 $\Omega$ stereo headphones 8 mW nominal into 64 $\Omega$ supplied earphone
<b>Antenna:</b>	Rubber antenna included
<b>Operating Temperature:</b>	- 20°C (- 5°F) to + 60°C (+ 140°F)
<b>Size:</b>	2-1/2" (W) x 1-3/4" (D) x 12-1/4" (H) (with antenna attached)
<b>Weight:</b>	12.6 oz
<b>Power Requirements:</b>	4.8V DC (internal battery or AC Adapter/ Charger properly connected.)  13.8V DC (with optional Cigarette Lighter Power Cord properly connected.)

*Certified in accordance with FCC Rules and Regulations  
Part 15 Subpart C as of date of manufacture.*

*Features, specifications, and availability of optional  
accessories are all subject to change without notice.*

# BC 120XLT



***100-Channel  
Programmable  
Twin Turbo  
Hand-Held  
Auto Scanner***

**OPERATING GUIDE**

---

# PRECAUTIONS

---

Before you use this scanner, please read and observe the following:

## ■ WARNING!

Uniden **DOES NOT** represent this unit to be waterproof. To reduce the risk of fire or electrical shock, **DO NOT** expose this unit to rain or moisture.

## ■ IMPORTANT!

Be sure to use only the supplied earphone, or a stereo headset of the proper impedance ( $32\Omega$ ). Use of an incorrect earphone or stereo headset may be potentially hazardous to your hearing.

## ■ WARNING:

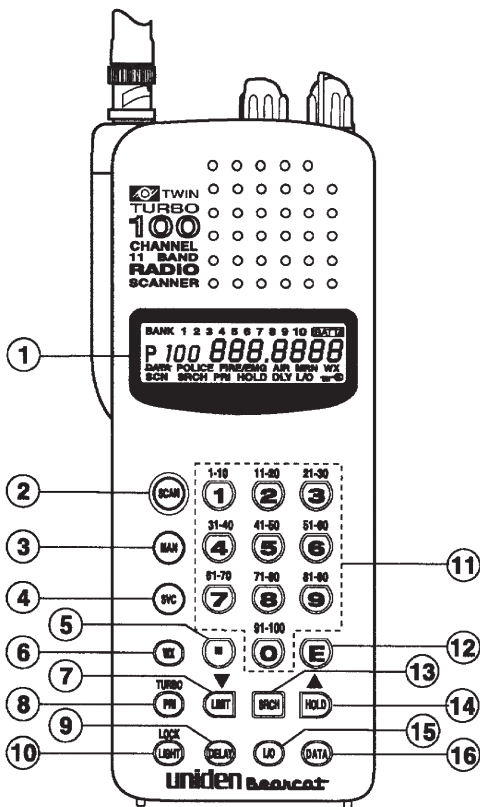
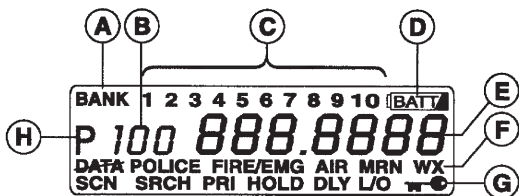
Set the Volume to a comfortable audio level coming from the speaker before plugging in the supplied earphone or a stereo headset of the proper impedance ( $32\Omega$ ). Otherwise you might experience some discomfort or possible hearing damage if the Volume suddenly becomes too loud because of the Volume Control or Squelch Control setting. This may be particularly true of the type of earphone that is placed in the ear canal.

## ■ NICKEL-CADMIUM BATTERY WARNING

- This equipment contains a Nickel-Cadmium Battery.
- Cadmium is a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer.
- The Nickel-Cadmium Battery contained in this equipment may explode if disposed of in a fire.
- **Do not** short circuit the battery.
- **Do not** charge the Nickel-Cadmium Battery used in this equipment with any other AC Adapter/Charger other than the one designed to charge this battery (AD-70U). Using another charger may damage the battery, or cause the battery to explode.

## ■ Nickel-Cadmium Battery Disposal

Nickel-Cadmium Batteries Must Be Disposed Of Properly. Read the Nickel-Cadmium Battery Disposal package insert for important information.



COVERED UNDER ONE OR MORE OF THE  
FOLLOWING U.S. PATENTS:

RE 31,523	4,027,251	4,057,760	4,092,594	4,100,497
4,114,103	4,123,715	4,156,193	4,157,505	4,179,662
4,219,821	4,270,217	4,398,304	4,409,688	4,455,679
4,461,036	4,521,915	4,627,100	4,888,815	4,932,074
4,947,456	5,014,348	5,199,109		

**uniden®**  
**Beancat®**

©1994 Uniden America Corporation. All rights reserved.  
Revised 1994